



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROBATION DEPARTMENT**
9150 EAST IMPERIAL HIGHWAY, DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90242
(562) 940-2513



February 14, 2005

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENDOWMENT
UNDER THE HEALTHY RETURNS INITIATIVE**

(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Authorize the Acting Chief Probation Officer to accept \$950,000 in grant funding over a four (4) year period from the California Endowment (Endowment) under the Healthy Returns Initiative (HRI) to improve access to health and mental health services for adolescents in Los Angeles County.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDATION

The purpose of the recommended action is to authorize the Acting Chief Probation Officer to accept HRI funding from the Endowment on behalf of the County of Los Angeles (County). The total maximum grant amount is \$950,000 over a four (4) year period (March 1, 2005 through February 28, 2009).

The grant funds will be utilized to develop and implement innovative strategies in a collaborative partnership with the County of Los Angeles Mental Health Department to improve comprehensive health and mental health outcomes for the target population. The initial grant period of March 1, 2005 through February 28, 2006 will be used to plan the program. The planning will include a community assessment to determine assets and gaps in the health and mental health network, and the development of agreements with service members. Subsequent funding years will be used to implement a proven evidence-based practice that will deliver the required outcomes.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended Board actions are consistent with the Countywide Strategic Plan Fiscal Responsibility, Goal #4, and Children and Families' Well-Being Goal #5.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The County of Los Angeles has been allocated \$950,000 in grant funds over a four (4) year period by the Endowment. There is no match required and no net County costs associated with the grant funds. However, Probation may provide in-kind support once the program is implemented.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

In December 2004, the Endowment invited five (5) probation departments in California to participate in HRI, a \$6.5 million initiative. The County Probation Department was one of the five probation departments invited to participate in HRI. The selections were based on specific criteria, including, a demonstrated history of successfully participating in relevant systems reform efforts, a demonstrated interest and readiness to address health and/or behavioral health issues, demonstrated interest and readiness to utilize evidence-based practices, adequate infrastructure to partner with community-based organizations and other county departments, and willingness of leaders of the Department, juvenile court, Board of Supervisors, and the community to support initiative goals. The purpose of the grant funds is to increase access to health and mental health care for adolescents who are detained or who have been adjudicated as court wards in the County.

On January 31, 2005 the Endowment notified the Department of the contract award. However, since the Endowment's fiscal year ends on February 28, 2005, the grant award must be made prior to March 1, 2005. Therefore, to receive the funds, the County must accept the grant award prior to February 28, 2005.

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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

The Endowment funds will allow Probation to enhance current services to minors and their families.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Higa
Acting Chief Probation Officer

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c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
 Chief Administrative Officer
 County Counsel